

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINSHA 03961 261609Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 SS-15 /026 W

-----261614Z 126313 /43

O 261525Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3264

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 3961

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO

SUBJECT: PRESS SPOKESMEN'S REMARKS RE PYGMIES

REF: (A) STATE 91863, (B) STATE 91861

1. TWICE NOW (REFTELS) USG PRESS SPOKESMEN HAVE MADE REMARKS CONCERNING ZAIRIAN PYGMIES WHICH, HOWEVER HUMOROUS TO OUR DOMESTIC AUDIENCES, CAN BE VIEWED AS HIGHLY OFFENSIVE BY THE GOZ. WE KNOW THAT MOBUTU RECEIVES THROUGH HIS OWN CHANNELS DETAILED REPORTS OF OUR SPOKESMEN'S DAILY COMMENTS; GIVEN HIS WELL-KNOWN SENSITIVITIES, THIS TYPE OF RIDICULE COULD ADD MEASURABLY TO THE ALREADY UNHAPPY STATE OF HIS APPRECIATION OF THE US POSITION IN HIS TIME OF NEED. WHILE I CAN WELL UNDERSTAND THE TEMPTATION TO REACH FOR A TITILLATING LINE, I WOULD NEVERTHELESS HOPE WE COULD EXERCISE RESTRAINT IN THE LIGHT OF POTENTIAL REPERCUSSIONS ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.

2. SORRY IF I APPEAR STUFFY. BUT ON THIS ONE OUR CULTURE GAP IS SHOWING, AND I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR FINDING A WAY TO PASS THESE THOUGHTS ALONG TO THOSE CONCERNED.
CUTLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, MINORITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e4931c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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